The State of New Hampshire
Department of Environmental Services

Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

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September 9, 2025

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to award a grant to the Chichester School District (SAU 53) (VC# 159843-B001), Pembroke, NH, in the amount not to exceed $15,000 for lead remediation in drinking water Chichester Central School, under the provisions of RSA 485:F, effective upon Governor and Council approval through December 31, 2026. 100% Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund (DWGTF).

Funding is available in the following account:

	FY 2026
03-44-44-444010-7428-073-500580	$15,000
Dept. Environmental Services, Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund, Grants Non-Federal	

EXPLANATION

The Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund (DWGTF) was created in 2016, using $276 million of MtBE trial judgement funds, as authorized by RSA 485-F. The purpose of the DWGTF is to provide sustainable, long-term funding for the protection, preservation, and enhancement of the drinking water and groundwater resources of the state. The Drinking Water and Groundwater Advisory Commission (Advisory Commission) was established to administer and provide guidance to the State on the use of the DWGTF. In 2023, the Advisory Commission awarded $1,000,000 to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to provide grants for remediation of lead in drinking water in K-12 schools at any outlet testing at 5 parts per billion (ppb) or above. The Advisory Commission approved this funding to be awarded to public and nonpublic schools in New Hampshire for up to 100% of the total lead remediation costs as needed.

The Chichester School District will use the $15,000 grant for lead remediation at the Chichester Central School. Eligible work includes installation of water bottle filling stations, point of use filters, removal and replacement of faucets, fixtures, fountains, solder, piping, plumbing components, and water treatment at any drinking water outlet with results at 5 ppb or above that are available for consumption by children.

In the event these funds become unavailable, general funds will not be requested to support this project. This agreement has been approved by the Attorney General's Office as to form, substance, and execution.

We respectfully request your approval.

Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

DES Website: www.des.nh.gov
P.O. Box 95, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, New Hampshire 03302-0095
Telephone: (603) 271-2513 • Fax: (603) 271-5171 • TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964

GRANT AGREEMENT

The State of New Hampshire and the Grantee hereby
Mutually agree as follows:
GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Identification and Definitions.

1.1. State Agency Name Department of Environmental Services		**1.2. State Agency Address** 29 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95 Concord, NH 03302-0095	
1.3. Grantee Name Chichester School District SAU 53		**1.4. Grantee Address** 267 Pembroke Street, Pembroke NH 03275	
1.5 Grantee Phone # 603-798-5651	**1.6. Account Number** 03-44-44-444010-7428-073	**1.7. Completion Date** 12/31/2026	**1.8. Grant Limitation** $15,000
1.9. Grant Officer for State Agency Cheryl Bondi, Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund Administrator		**1.10. State Agency Telephone Number** 603-271-8321	
If Grantee is a municipality or village district: **"By signing this form we certify that we have complied with any public meeting requirement for acceptance of this grant, including if applicable RSA 31:95-b."**			
1.11. Grantee Signature 1 Brianne Stone		**1.12. Name & Title of Grantee Signor 1** Brianne Stone, *School Board Vice Chair*	
Grantee Signature 2		**Name & Title of Grantee Signor 2**	
Grantee Signature 3		**Name & Title of Grantee Signor 3**	
1.13. State Agency Signature(s)		**1.14. Name & Title of State Agency Signor(s)** Robert R. Scott, Commissioner Department of Environmental Services	
1.15. Approval by Attorney General (Form, Substance and Execution) (if G & C approval required) **By:** **Assistant Attorney General, On:** 9 /12/2025			
1.16. Approval by Governor and Council (if applicable) **By:** **On:** / /			

2. SCOPE OF WORK: In exchange for grant funds provided by the State of New Hampshire, acting through the Agency identified in block 1.1 (hereinafter referred to as "the State"), the Grantee identified in block 1.3 (hereinafter referred to as "the Grantee"), shall perform that work identified and more particularly described in the scope of work attached hereto as EXHIBIT B (the scope of work being hereinafter referred to as "the Project").

3. AREA COVERED. Except as otherwise specifically provided for herein, the Grantee shall perform the Project in, and with respect to, the State of New Hampshire.

4. EFFECTIVE DATE: COMPLETION OF PROJECT.

4.1. This Agreement, and all obligations of the parties hereunder, shall become effective on the date on the date of approval of this Agreement by the Governor and Council of the State of New Hampshire if required (block 1.16), or upon signature by the State Agency as shown in block 1.14 ("the Effective Date").

4.2. Except as otherwise specifically provided herein, the Project, including all reports required by this Agreement, shall be completed in ITS entirety prior to the date in block 1.7 (hereinafter referred to as "the Completion Date").

5. GRANT AMOUNT: LIMITATION ON AMOUNT: VOUCHERS: PAYMENT.

5.1. The Grant Amount is identified and more particularly described in EXHIBIT C, attached hereto.

5.2. The manner of, and schedule of payment shall be as set forth in EXHIBIT C.

5.3. In accordance with the provisions set forth in EXHIBIT C, and in consideration of the satisfactory performance of the Project, as determined by the State, and as limited by subparagraph 5.5 of these general provisions, the State shall pay the Grantee the Grant Amount. The State shall withhold from the amount otherwise payable to the Grantee under this subparagraph 5.3 those sums required, or permitted, to be withheld pursuant to N.H. RSA 80:7 through 7-c.

5.4. The payment by the State of the Grant amount shall be the only, and the complete payment to the Grantee for all expenses, of whatever nature, incurred by the Grantee in the performance hereof, and shall be the only, and the complete, compensation to the Grantee for the Project. The State shall have no liabilities to the Grantee other than the Grant Amount.

5.5. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, and notwithstanding unexpected circumstances, in no event shall the total of all payments authorized, or actually made, hereunder exceed the Grant limitation set forth in block 1.8 of these general provisions.

6. COMPLIANCE BY GRANTEE WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS. In connection with the performance of the Project, the Grantee shall comply with all statutes, laws regulations, and orders of federal, state, county, or municipal authorities which shall impose any obligations or duty upon the Grantee, including the acquisition of any and all necessary permits and RSA 31-95-b.

7. RECORDS and ACCOUNTS.

7.1. Between the Effective Date and the date seven (7) years after the Completion Date, unless otherwise required by the grant terms or the Agency, the Grantee shall keep detailed accounts of all expenses incurred in connection with the Project, including, but not limited to, costs of administration, transportation, insurance, telephone calls, and clerical materials and services. Such accounts shall be supported by receipts, invoices, bills and other similar documents.

7.2. Between the Effective Date and the date seven (7) years after the Completion Date, unless otherwise required by the grant terms or the Agency pursuant to subparagraph 7.1, at any time during the Grantee's normal business hours, and as often as the State shall demand, the Grantee shall make available to the State all records pertaining to matters covered by this Agreement. The Grantee shall permit the State to audit, examine, and reproduce such records, and to make audits of all contracts, invoices, materials, payrolls, records of personnel, data (as that term is hereinafter defined), and other information relating to all matters covered by this Agreement. As used in this paragraph, "Grantee" includes all persons, natural or fictional, affiliated with, controlled by, or under common ownership

8. with, the entity identified as the Grantee in block 1.3 of these provisions

8.1. PERSONNEL.

The Grantee shall, at its own expense, provide all personnel necessary to perform the Project. The Grantee warrants that all personnel engaged in the Project shall be qualified to perform such Project, and shall be properly licensed and authorized

8.2. to perform such Project under all applicable laws.

The Grantee shall not hire, and it shall not permit any subcontractor, subgrantee, or other person, firm or corporation with whom it is engaged in a combined effort to perform the Project, to hire any person who has a contractual relationship with

8.3. the State, or who is a State officer or employee, elected or appointed.

The Grant Officer shall be the representative of the State hereunder. In the event of any dispute hereunder, the interpretation of this Agreement by the Grant

9. Officer, and his/her decision on any dispute, shall be final.

9.1. DATA; RETENTION OF DATA; ACCESS.

As used in this Agreement, the word "data" shall mean all information and things developed or obtained during the performance of, or acquired or developed by reason of, this Agreement, including, but not limited to, all studies, reports, files, formulae, surveys, maps, charts, sound recordings, video recordings, pictorial reproductions, drawings, analyses, graphic representations, computer programs, computer printouts, notes, letters, memoranda, paper, and documents, all whether finished or unfinished.

9.2. Between the Effective Date and the Completion Date the Grantee shall grant to the State, or any person designated by it, unrestricted access to all data for examination, duplication, publication, translation, sale, disposal, or for any other purpose whatsoever.

9.3. No data shall be subject to copyright in the United States or any other country by anyone other than the State.

9.4. On and after the Effective Date all data, and any property which has been received from the State or purchased with funds provided for that purpose under this Agreement, shall be the property of the State, and shall be returned to the State upon demand or upon termination of this Agreement for any reason, whichever shall first occur.

9.5. The State, and anyone it shall designate, shall have unrestricted authority to publish, disclose, distribute and otherwise use, in whole or in part, all data.

10. CONDITIONAL NATURE OR AGREEMENT. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, all obligations of the State hereunder, including, without limitation, the continuance of payments hereunder, are contingent upon the availability or continued appropriation of funds, and in no event shall the State be liable for any payments hereunder in excess of such available or appropriated funds. In the event of a reduction or termination of those funds, the State shall have the right to withhold payment until such funds become available, if ever, and shall have the right to terminate this Agreement immediately upon giving the Grantee notice of such termination.

11. EVENT OF DEFAULT: REMEDIES.

11.1. Any one or more of the following acts or omissions of the Grantee shall constitute an event of default hereunder (hereinafter referred to as "Events of Default"):

11.1.1 Failure to perform the Project satisfactorily or on schedule; or

11.1.2 Failure to submit any report required hereunder; or

11.1.3 Failure to maintain, or permit access to, the records required hereunder; or

11.1.4 Failure to perform any of the other covenants and conditions of this Agreement.

11.2. Upon the occurrence of any Event of Default, the State may take any one, or more, or all, of the following actions:

11.2.1 Give the Grantee a written notice specifying the Event of Default and requiring it to be remedied within, in the absence of a greater or lesser specification of time, thirty (30) days from the date of the notice; and if the Event of Default is not timely remedied, terminate this Agreement, effective two (2) days after giving the Grantee notice of termination; and

11.2.2 Give the Grantee a written notice specifying the Event of Default and suspending all payments to be made under this Agreement and ordering that the portion of the Grant Amount which would otherwise accrue to the Grantee during the period from the date of such notice until such time as the State determines that the Grantee has cured the Event of Default shall never be paid to the Grantee; and

11.2.3 Set off against any other obligation the State may owe to the Grantee any damages the State suffers by reason of any Event of Default; and

11.2.4 Treat the agreement as breached and pursue any of its remedies at law or in equity, or both.

12. TERMINATION.

12.1. In the event of any early termination of this Agreement for any reason other than the completion of the Project, the Grantee shall deliver to the Grant Officer, not later than fifteen (15) days after the date of termination, a report (hereinafter referred to as the "Termination Report") describing in detail all Project Work performed, and the Grant Amount earned, to and including the date of termination.

12.2. In the event of Termination under paragraphs 10 or 12.4 of these general provisions, the approval of such a Termination Report by the State shall entitle the Grantee to receive that portion of the Grant amount earned to and including the date of termination.

12.3. In the event of Termination under paragraphs 10 or 12.4 of these general provisions, the approval of such a Termination Report by the State shall in no event relieve the Grantee from any and all liability for damages sustained or incurred by the State as a result of the Grantee's breach of its obligations hereunder.

12.4. Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary, either the State or, except where notice default has been given to the Grantee hereunder, the Grantee, may terminate this Agreement without cause upon thirty (30) days written notice.

13. CONFLICT OF INTEREST. No officer, member of employee of the Grantee, and no representative, officer or employee of the State of New Hampshire or of the governing body of the locality or localities in which the Project is to be performed, who exercises any functions or responsibilities in the review or

Grantee Initials BS

Date 7/30/25

approval of the undertaking or carrying out of such Project, shall participate in any decision relating to this Agreement which affects his or her personal interest or the interest of any corporation, partnership, or association in which he or she is directly or indirectly interested, nor shall he or she have any personal or pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, in this Agreement or the proceeds thereof.

14. GRANTEE'S RELATION TO THE STATE. In the performance of this Agreement the Grantee, its employees, and any subcontractor or subgrantee of the Grantee are in all respects independent contractors, and are neither agents nor employees of the State. Neither the Grantee nor any of its officers, employees, agents, members, subcontractors or subgrantees, shall have authority to bind the State nor are they entitled to any of the benefits, workmen's compensation or emoluments provided by the State to its employees.

15. ASSIGNMENT AND SUBCONTRACTS. The Grantee shall not assign, or otherwise transfer any interest in this Agreement without the prior written consent of the State. None of the Project Work shall be subcontracted or subgranted by the Grantee other than as set forth in Exhibit B without the prior written consent of the State.

16. INDEMNIFICATION. The Grantee shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the State, its officers and employees, from and against any and all losses suffered by the State, its officers and employees, and any and all claims, liabilities or penalties asserted against the State, its officers and employees, by or on behalf of any person, on account of, based on, resulting from, arising out of (or which may be claimed to arise out of) the acts or omissions of the Grantee or subcontractor, or subgrantee or other agent of the Grantee. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein contained shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of the sovereign immunity of the State, which immunity is hereby reserved to the State. This covenant shall survive the termination of this agreement.

17. INSURANCE.

17.1 The Grantee shall, at its own expense, obtain and maintain in force, or shall require any subcontractor, subgrantee or assignee performing Project work to obtain and maintain in force, both for the benefit of the State, the following insurance:

17.1.1 Statutory workers' compensation and employees liability insurance for all employees engaged in the performance of the Project, and

17.1.2 General liability insurance against all claims of bodily injuries, death or property damage, in amounts not less than $1,000,000 per occurrence and $2,000,000 aggregate for bodily injury or death any one incident, and $500,000 for property damage in any one incident; and

17.2. The policies described in subparagraph 17.1 of this paragraph shall be the standard form employed in the State of New Hampshire, issued by underwriters acceptable to the State, and authorized to do business in the State of New Hampshire. Grantee shall furnish to the State, certificates of insurance for all renewal(s) of insurance required under this Agreement no later than ten (10) days prior to the expiration date of each insurance policy.

18. WAIVER OF BREACH. No failure by the State to enforce any provisions hereof after any Event of Default shall be deemed a waiver of its rights with regard to that Event, or any subsequent Event. No express waiver of any Event of Default shall be deemed a waiver of any provisions hereof. No such failure of waiver shall be deemed a waiver of the right of the State to enforce each and all of the provisions hereof upon any further or other default on the part of the Grantee.

19. NOTICE. Any notice by a party hereto to the other party shall be deemed to have been duly delivered or given at the time of mailing by certified mail, postage prepaid, in a United States Post Office addressed to the parties at the addresses first above given.

20. AMENDMENT. This Agreement may be amended, waived or discharged only by an instrument in writing signed by the parties hereto and only after approval of such amendment, waiver or discharge by the Governor and Council of the State of New Hampshire, if required or by the signing State Agency.

21. CONSTRUCTION OF AGREEMENT AND TERMS. This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the law of the State of New Hampshire, and is binding upon and inures to the benefit of the parties and their respective successors and assignees. The captions and contents of the "subject" blank are used only as a matter of convenience, and are not to be considered a part of this Agreement or to be used in determining the intend of the parties hereto.

22. THIRD PARTIES. The parties hereto do not intend to benefit any third parties and this Agreement shall not be construed to confer any such benefit.

23. ENTIRE AGREEMENT. This Agreement, which may be executed in a number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, constitutes the entire agreement and understanding between the parties, and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings relating hereto.

24. SPECIAL PROVISIONS. The additional or modifying provisions set forth in Exhibit A hereto are incorporated as part of this agreement.

Grantee Initials BS

Date 7/30/25

EXHIBIT A

SPECIAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. Project-related changes to the Scope of Services outlined in Exhibit B require New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) approval in advance, and if applicable as determined by NHDES, may require approval by the Drinking Water and Groundwater Advisory Commission and a grant amendment subject to approval by the Governor and Executive Council.

2. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE: Lead remediation costs incurred by the recipient during the period that begins on May 17, 2016, and ends on the completion date listed on the grant agreement (section 1.7) are eligible for reimbursement.

3. Work must be completed by the completion date listed on the grant agreement (section 1.7).

EXHIBIT B

SCOPE OF SERVICES

Chichester School District SAU 53, Chichester, New Hampshire

The Chichester School District SAU 53 (Grantee) will use the grant funds to perform lead remediation at drinking water outlets testing at or above 5 parts per billion (ppb) at Chichester Central School. Eligible costs under this grant agreement include installation of water bottle filling stations, point of use filters, removal and replacement of faucets, fixtures, fountains, solder, piping, plumbing components, and water treatment at any drinking water outlet with lead levels at 5 ppb or above available for consumption by children, and activities required to achieve the required lead remediation outcome.

EXHIBIT C

METHOD OF PAYMENT

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) shall pay to the Grantee the total reimbursable project costs up to $15,000 for eligible lead remediation costs in accordance with the following requirements:

Reimbursement requests for remediation costs shall be made no more than once per calendar month by the Grantee using the Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund Request for Disbursement Form as supplied by the NHDES, which shall be completed and signed by the Grantee. The disbursement form shall be accompanied by proper supporting documentation based upon direct costs. The Grantee will maintain adequate documentation to substantiate all lead remediation-related costs. All work shall be performed to the satisfaction

of the NHDES before payment is made. Qualified project costs incurred are eligible for reimbursement from May 17, 2016, through the end of the grant period as noted in section 1.7 of the standard grant agreement.

The total reimbursement shall not exceed the grant award of $15,000. Each disbursement request will be paid 100% grant funds up to $15,000.

Grantee Initials BS
Date 7/30/25

CERTIFICATE OF VOTE
AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT GRANTS

Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund (DWGTF)
Lead Remediation in Drinking Water for NH K-12 Schools

A Certificate of Vote of Authorization (COV) is a certificate that states a Grantee is willing to enter into a grant agreement with the State of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) and designates an Authorized Representative of the Grantee's governing body to execute the grant documents.

FORM GUIDANCE

- Please fill out areas highlighted in yellow DIGITALLY before printing for final wet signature.
- The Witness must have a titled position at the Grantee's address listed below.
- The Authorized Representative listed under item 3 does not sign this form.

Chichester School District (SAU 53)
267 Pembroke Street, Pembroke NH 03275

I, Heather Chiavaras, of the Chichester School District do hereby certify that:

1. I am the duly elected School Board Chair of the Chichester School District;
2. At a board meeting held on June 18, 2025, the Chichester School Board voted to accept a grant from the Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund and enter into grant agreement with the New Hampshire Department Environmental Services to perform lead remediation of drinking water in K-12 schools.
3. The Chichester School District further authorized Brianne Stone, School Board Vice Chair to execute any documents which may be necessary to effectuate this grant agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand as the

Heather Chiavaras, School Board Chair, of the Chichester School District on July 30, 2025.

Witness Signature: Heather Chiavaras **Date:** 7/30/25

Primex³
NH Public Risk Management Exchange

CERTIFICATE OF COVERAGE

The New Hampshire Public Risk Management Exchange (Primex³) is organized under the New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated, Chapter 5-B, Pooled Risk Management Programs. In accordance with those statutes, its Trust Agreement and bylaws, Primex³ is authorized to provide pooled risk management programs established for the benefit of political subdivisions in the State of New Hampshire.

Each member of Primex³ is entitled to the categories of coverage set forth below. In addition, Primex³ may extend the same coverage to non-members. However, any coverage extended to a non-member is subject to all of the terms, conditions, exclusions, amendments, rules, policies and procedures that are applicable to the members of Primex³, including but not limited to the final and binding resolution of all claims and coverage disputes before the Primex³ Board of Trustees. The Additional Covered Party's per occurrence limit shall be deemed included in the Member's per occurrence limit, and therefore shall reduce the Member's limit of liability as set forth by the Coverage Documents and Declarations. The limit shown may have been reduced by claims paid on behalf of the member. General Liability coverage is limited to Coverage A (Personal Injury Liability) and Coverage B (Property Damage Liability) only, Coverage's C (Public Officials Errors and Omissions), D (Unfair Employment Practices), E (Employee Benefit Liability) and F (Educator's Legal Liability Claims-Made Coverage) are excluded from this provision of coverage.

The below named entity is a member in good standing of the New Hampshire Public Risk Management Exchange. The coverage provided may, however, be revised at any time by the actions of Primex³. As of the date this certificate is issued, the information set out below accurately reflects the categories of coverage established for the current coverage year.

This Certificate is issued as a matter of information only and confers no rights upon the certificate holder. This certificate does not amend, extend, or alter the coverage afforded by the coverage categories listed below.

Participating Member:	*Member Number:*	*Company Affording Coverage:*
Chichester School District SAU #53 267 Pembroke Street Pembroke, NH 03275	708	NH Public Risk Management Exchange - Primex³ PO Box 23 Hooksett, NH 03106-9716

	Type of Coverage	*Effective Date (mm/dd/yyyy)*	*Expiration Date (mm/dd/yyyy)*	*Limits* - **NH Statutory Limits May Apply, If Not:**	
X	**General Liability (Occurrence Form)**	7/1/2025	7/1/2026	Each Occurrence	$ 2,000,000
	Professional Liability (describe)			General Aggregate	$ 10,000,000
	☐ Claims Made ☐ Occurrence			Fire Damage (Any one fire)	
				Med Exp (Any one person)	
X	**Automobile Liability** Deductible Comp and Coll: $1,000	7/1/2025	7/1/2026	Combined Single Limit (Each Accident)	$ 2,000,000
	☐ Any auto			Aggregate	$ 10,000,000
X	**Workers' Compensation & Employers' Liability**	7/1/2025	7/1/2026	X Statutory	
				Each Accident	$ 2,000,000
				Disease – Each Employee	$ 2,000,000
				Disease – Policy Limit	
X	**Property (Special Risk includes Fire and Theft)**	7/1/2025	7/1/2026	Blanket Limit, Replacement Cost (unless otherwise stated)	Deductible: $1,000

Description: Proof of Primex Member coverage only. Pollution and hazardous waste related liabilities, expenses and claims are excluded from coverage in the coverage document.

CERTIFICATE HOLDER:	☐ **Additional Covered Party**	☐ **Loss Payee**	**Primex³ – NH Public Risk Management Exchange**
			By: *Mary Beth Purcell*
State of NH, Department of Environmental Services 29 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95 Concord, NH 03302-0095			**Date:** 7/16/2025 mpurcell@nhprimex.org Please direct inquires to: **Primex³ Claims/Coverage Services** **603-225-2841 phone** **603-228-3833 fax**